

Appendix D:
Field Notes and Digital Photographs
of Representative Buildings

Appendix D

Field notes and photos for:

Main Base Area

- VDHR# 001-0027-0001 Air Traffic Operations Building (1944)
(WFF ID# A-1)
- VDHR #001-0027-0002 Cafeteria and Photo Lab (1944
(WFF ID# E-2) (Historic Name: Cafeteria & Exchange)
- VDHR# 001-0027-0003 Post Office/Mail & File Building (1945)
(WFF ID# E-7)

Island Area

- VDHR# 001-0027-0004 General Services Building (1946)
(WFF ID# X-55) (Historic Name: Scout Project Office)

Properties Programmed for Demolition

- VDHR# 001-0027-0005 WEMA Recreational Facility (1936)
(WFF ID# V-65) (Historic Name: Coast Guard Station)
- VDHR# 001-0027-0006 Unit 11-C, Navy Family Housing (1947)
(WFF ID# H-15)

VDHR # 001-0027-0001
WFF ID# A-1
Name: Air Traffic Operations Building
Date: 1944



Description:

This five story tall control tower provides air traffic control functions for the main east-west runways at the Wallops Flight Facility. The Operations Building consists of a main tower which is surmounted by a large glass and metal viewing tower. A smaller two-story concrete building abuts the main block at its northwest corner.

The main (south) façade is covered by concrete incised to create a large rectangular block pattern. At the top of the concrete portion of the tower, a metal support railing provides protection for an exterior observation platform. The glass tower is supported by a hexagonal drum. The tower glass is smoke grey in color. Glass panels are held by

vertical metal strips which about a horizontal metal top. The top of the tower has at least four communication antennae on it.

The south façade of the smaller block is also covered in concrete in a rectangular block pattern. A metal fire escape travels from the top of the building to the ground at the southwest corner. At the ground floor level, a ramp leads up to a metal door, which is framed by a metal guardrail system. A plate glass window is centrally located at the second floor level.

On the west façade, a series of openings stacked vertically appear near the intersection with the smaller block. These include a door at the first floor level, with windows at the second through fourth floor levels. A double-hung sash window is placed at the southwest corner of the main block, at the first floor level. Above it, between the third and fourth floor, is a similar window.

The west façade of the smaller block again has the same concrete exterior. At the top of the second floor, however, is a second air traffic control tower. This also has smoked glass, and also overlooks the main field.

On the north (field) façade, the exterior surface treatment is identical to all other facades. Two rows of modern metal windows are stacked above one another, moving east from the northwest corner. Like the higher tower, this tower's glass panels are supported by vertical metal members, which end in a horizontal white band. The band is slightly below a grey aluminum cap at the top of the structure.

This building was designated as the "control tower" on a 1942 drawing entitled "General Plot Plan – Auxiliary Air Station, Chincoteague, Virginia" by Giffels and Valet, Engineers and Architects, Detroit, Michigan. Its function was again identified as the "control tower" on the 1950 "Map of Navy Auxiliary Air Station and Naval Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia" prepared by the U.S. Navy. It was again designated as the "control tower" in the 1957 "General Development Plan – Naval Air Station, Naval Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia" by U.S. Navy.

Because of the limited nature of this survey, this building was not evaluated under Criteria A, B, C, or D to determine its eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

VDHR # 001-0027-0002
WFF ID# E-2
Name: Cafeteria & Photo Lab
(Historic Name: Cafeteria & Exchange)
Date: 1944

Description:

Located on the corner of Stubbs Avenue and Anderson Street on the Main Base portion of the Wallops Flight Facility, this one-story building was erected in 1944 to serve as a cafeteria at this facility. The predominant building material is brick, laid in an American bond pattern. This building has a central core which runs in a north-south direction, with a number of arms radiating at right angles from it. Two arms extend to the west, towards Stubbs Avenue, and form the front of the building. Three arms extend from the core to the east, or rear (service) portion of the building.

All portions of the building are covered with a simple, gable roof, covered with asphalt roofing. The area under each gable is sheathed with aluminum siding, painted white. On the two westernmost arms, a simple shed porch, supported by simple wooden post, shelters a walkway.

On virtually all facades, numerous original window openings have been infilled, creating a discernable pattern in the brickwork. On the western façade of the main block, a large greenhouse has been added. Throughout the east façade, each section of the building is punctuated by modern numerous vents, roll-up doors, and double doors.

This building is designated as the "Subsistence Building" on a 1942 drawing entitled "General Plot Plan – Auxiliary Air Station, Chincoteague, Virginia" by Giffels and Valet, Engineers and Architects, Detroit, Michigan. It was designated at the "mess, galley, store and rec.& Par. loft" on the 1950 "Map of Navy Auxiliary Air Station and Naval Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia" prepared by the U.S. Navy. Its function was designated as "link trainer, radar, and armory" in the 1957 "General Development Plan – Naval Air Station, Naval Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia" by U.S. Navy.

Because of the limited nature of this survey, this building was not evaluated under Criteria A, B, C, or D to determine its eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

VDHR # 001-0027-0003
WFF ID# E-7
Name: Post Office/Mail & File Building
Date: 1945



Description:

Located approximately forty yards east of the corner of Stubbs Avenue and Anderson Street on the Main Base portion of the Wallops Flight Facility, this one-story brick building dating from 1945 is notable for its curved roof.

The westernmost gable end serves as the entrance to the building. A modern aluminum frame and glass addition has been placed at the northwest corner to create an airlock for persons entering the building. Two modern doors, painted grey, lead into the building. Above this entryway is a blocked window opening above a concrete lintel. At the southwest corner, a two-over-two metal modern window punctuates the façade. Above it is a louvered metal vent.

The south façade is punctuated by two simple brick additions, one placed at the center of the façade, and the second towards the southeast corner of the building. Each of these additions is covered by a shallow shed roof. The only distinguishing features are the

aluminum gutter and leader system, and a metal ventilator placed in the center of the roof.

The east gable end functions as the service entrance to the facility. A metal door and transom are located in the center of the façade. To its left and right are larger metal roll-up doors. Above each of these is a metal ventilated window.

The north façade is different in treatment than the south façade. While it is also brick, a metal door and transom have been placed near the center of the façade. To the right of the door are a series of modern two-over-two metal windows. A pair of these windows is also found at the northwest corner. Over all these elements are approximately 12 metal brackets which support utilities for the building. A concrete pad is found at the northeast corner of the building.

This building was designated as the “training school” on a 1942 drawing entitled “General Plot Plan – Auxiliary Air Station, Chincoteague, Virginia” by Giffels and Valet, Engineers and Architects, Detroit, Michigan. Its function was identified as “aviation training and education” on the 1950 “Map of Navy Auxiliary Air Station and Naval Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia” prepared by the U.S. Navy. It was designated as the “mess hall, Navy exchange & cafeteria” in the 1957 “General Development Plan – Naval Air Station, Naval Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia” by U.S. Navy.

Because of the limited nature of this survey, this building was not evaluated under Criteria A, B, C, or D to determine its eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

VDHR # 001-0023-0004
WFF ID# X-55
Name: General Services Building
(Historic Name: Scout Project Office)
Date: 1946



Description:

Constructed in 1946, the General Services Building originally functioned as the Scout Project Office at the Wallops Flight Facility. It is located just to the south of the intersection of the main road leading into the facility and the access road which runs north to south along the island. This building is the oldest permanent structure on the Wallops Island portion of the WFF specifically related to the scientific and aeronautical testing mission of this facility.

This simple, one-story, rectangular building is sheathed in concrete with a distinctive block pattern. It cannot be ascertained if this building is frame covered with a concrete skin, or actually concrete block covered with a concrete parging.

The front (east) façade is pierced by a pair of centrally placed entry doors. A thin horizontal line marks an elevated base of the building. A concrete ramp has been constructed leading from an area near the southeast corner to the entry doors. A set of

three steps leads up to a landing, which offers entry through the doors. Two square concrete pads mark the edge of the raised entryway. To the left and right of the entry doors are three rectangular windows. These identical windows are metal, and subdivide the glass into nine panes.

The rear (west) façade of the building is identical to the east, with the exception of entry doors.

The north end of the building also employs the same sheathing and window treatments found in the front façade. Two windows are placed near the southeast and southwest corners. Each smoked glass window is subdivided by metal bands into nine panes of glass. Centrally placed above these windows is one metal vent. The top of the building is marked by a aluminum or other metal roof cap.

The south end of the building is identical to the north end of the building.

Because of the limited nature of this survey, this building was not evaluated under Criteria A, B, C, or D to determine its eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

VDHR # 001-0027-0005
WFF ID# V-65
Name: WEMA Recreational Facility
(Historic Name: Coast Guard Station)
Date: 1936





Description:

Located along the main access road towards the northernmost end of Wallops Island, this finely proportioned two-and-one-half story Colonial Revival building originally served as a Coast Guard Station at this location. No longer in Coast Guard ownership, this building now functions as the WEMA Recreational Facility at the Wallops Flight Facility.

The front (east) façade is five bays wide. The station sits on a raised concrete basement. A single 3 over 3 double hung sash window is found near the southeast and northeast corners. A set of 7 steps leads to a landing and the front door. This access is sheltered by a porch, supported by four sets of paired columns. The porch is surmounted by a shallow wood shingled shed roof. At the second floor level are found 5 equally spaced 6 over 6 double hung windows. The entire façade is covered with wood shingles, as are all other facades. Three gable dormers, each with a single 6 over 6 double hung window, are placed symmetrically within the roof.

The rear (west) façade is similar to the front, but with a few variations. At the basement level, two 3 over 3 double hung sash windows are paired closely together at the southwest corner. A single 3 over 3 double hung window is found at the northwest corner. At the first floor level, three 6 over 6 double hung windows are symmetrically placed within the façade. Two smaller 6 over 6 double hung sash windows are placed

between the larger centrally placed window, and the larger window at the northwest corner. At the second floor level, five windows identical to those in the front façade, may be found. A wooden water table is located in a horizontal line at the base of the windows. As with the front façade, three gable dormers are placed symmetrically within the roof. A brick chimney pierces the roof near the northwest corner of the roof.

The south gable end also exhibits four 3 over 3 double hung sash windows at the basement level. Three 6 over 6 double hung windows are symmetrically placed at the first and second floor levels. A wooden water table marks the base of the second floor windows. The roof line is marked by projecting verge boards. Near the apex of the roof is placed a 4 light lunette window.

The north gable end is similar in treatment to the south gable end. At the basement level, three 3 over 3 double hung sash windows begin at the northeast corner and move eastward. On the first floor level, two 6 over 6 double hung sash windows are placed in the first and second bays from the northeast corner. In the third bay, a doorway and single 6 over 6 double hung sash window pierce the façade. These are surmounted by a porch supported by wooden brackets. At the second floor level are three 6 over 6 double hung sash windows, again with a water table. Near the apex of the roof is placed a 4 light lunette window.

Because of the limited nature of this survey, this building was not evaluated under Criteria A, B, C, or D to determine its eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

VDHR # 001-0027-0006
WFF ID# H-16
Name: Unit 11-C, Navy Family Housing
(Type 1)
Date: 1947



Description:

This one-story gable roofed brick rambler, designated at Unit 11-C, appears to be one of three types of family housing constructed by the U.S. Navy at this location during the mid- to late-1940s. Based on facility management information at the Wallops Flight Facility (WFF), this building was erected in 1947. This property is now in National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) ownership as part of the WFF. As one of approximately 25 individual units, these units now serve as U.S. Coast Guard housing.

This building sits on a slightly elevated grassy area and fronts onto Cartledge Drive. The front (north) façade is four bays wide. The first, second, and fourth bay from the northeast corner are filled with windows, but these are covered with wooden security panels. An unadorned metal door is located in the third bay. A simple screen porch, supported by thin columns, extends from this façade towards Cartledge Drive.

The rear (south) façade of this building is identical to the front façade with one exception. Towards the southeast corner is a single-story frame ell which probably serves as a kitchen or bathroom area. (This cannot be verified because no interior access was provided.) This ell is capped by a shallow shed roof.

Both the east and west gable ends are identical in architectural treatment. These are brick at the first floor level. Two windows are centrally placed in each façade. These windows cannot be seen, as they are covered with wood panels for security. The roof gable area above the brick is sheathed in aluminum siding.

Because of the limited nature of this survey, this building was not evaluated under Criteria A, B, C, or D to determine its eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Because this unit is one of three variations in this housing, this evaluation would probably examine the group of approximately 25 units as part of a small potential historic district.